

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and/or listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (cancelled)

8. (Currently amended): A reading station for reading a portable storage device operable to provide system configuration information to a system unit, the storage device including a circuit, a circuit interface and an opening at an edge of the device, the reading station comprising:

a housing;

a device receiver configured to receive the device, the device receiver having a portion external to the housing, said portion being configured to enable a restraint to engage the opening in the device to retain the device at the reading station; and

a device reader operable to interface with the circuit interface when the device is received by the device receiver, the device receiver further being configured to enable a restraint to engage the opening in the device to retain the device at the reading station, the restraint being located at the exterior of the reading station.

9. (Original): The reading station of claim 8, wherein the device receiver comprises a formation defining a passage configured to receive the portable storage device.

10. (Original): The reading station of claim 9, wherein the passage is slot-shaped so as to receive a portable storage device in the form of a system configuration card.

11. (Currently amended): A reading station for reading a portable storage device in the form of a system configuration card, the reading station comprising:

a housing;

a device receiver defining a slot for receiving the card, ~~the device receiver having a portion external to the housing, said portion being configured to enable a restraint to engage a notch in the device to retain the device within the slot;~~ and

a device reader including card reader contacts for contacting the circuit contacts on the card wherein the card reader contacts are located so as to contact the circuit contacts on the card when the card is received within the slot, ~~the device receiver further being configured to enable a restraint to engage a notch in the card for securing the card in the device reading station when the card is received within the slot, the restraint being located at the exterior of the reading station.~~

12. (Currently amended): The reading station of claim 11, wherein the ~~device receiver~~ first portion comprises a formation including a protuberance, the slot comprising a passage with a slit-shaped cross section that is open at one end of the protuberance and passes through the protuberance in the direction of the device reader.

13. (Original): The reading station of claim 9, wherein a hole is formed in the formation, which hole passes between opposite surfaces of the formation and through the passage at a position corresponding to that occupied by the opening in the device when the device is received at a reading position in the reading station.

14. (Original): The reading station of claim 13, further comprising a restraint that is manually insertable through the hole to engage the opening in the device, thereby retaining the device in the reading station.

15. (Original): The reading station of claim 14, wherein the restraint is a padlock.

16. (Original): The reading station of claim 14, wherein the restraint is a cable tie.

17. (Original): The reading station of claim 14, wherein the restraint is a wire with a seal.

18. (Original): The reading station of claim 9, wherein the device receiver is mountable in a wall of a system unit.

19. (Original): The reading station of claim 18, wherein the device receiver comprises a first portion of larger cross-sectional area that defines a protuberance to project from the wall and a second portion of smaller cross-sectional area to be received within an aperture in the wall, the passage passing through both portions of the device receiver to define a through passage that passes through the wall of the system unit.

20. (Original): The reading station of claim 19, wherein the second portion of smaller cross-sectional area includes wedge-shaped detents configured, for mounting of the device receiver in the aperture in the wall, to pass through the aperture in the wall and to latch behind the wall when the device receiver is fully inserted.

21. (Previously presented): A device receiver mountable in a wall, the device receiver comprising a formation having a first portion of larger cross-sectional area that defines a protuberance to project from the wall, a second portion of smaller cross-sectional area to be received within the aperture in the wall, and a passage that passes through both portions to define a passage through the wall, the first portion further comprising a hole formed in the protuberance, which hole passes between opposite surfaces of the protuberance and traverses the passage for receiving a restraint to engage an opening in a device when the device is received in the device receiver for retaining the device therein.

22. (Original): The device receiver of claim 21, wherein the second portion of smaller cross-sectional area includes wedge-shaped detents configured, for mounting of the device receiver in the aperture, to pass through the aperture in the wall of the system unit and to latch behind the wall when the device receiver is fully inserted.

23. (Original): The device receiver of claim 21, wherein the passage is slot-shaped so as to receive a portable storage device in the form of a system configuration card.

24. (Currently amended): A computer system comprising a reading station for reading a portable storage device operable to provide system configuration information to the computer system, the storage device including a circuit, a circuit interface and an opening at an edge of the device, the reading station comprising:

a housing;

a device receiver configured to receive the device, ~~the device receiver having a portion external to the housing, said portion being configured to enable a restraint to engage the opening in the device to retain the device at the reading station;~~ and

a device reader operable to interface with the circuit interface when the device is received by the device receiver, ~~the device receiver further being configured to enable a restraint to engage the opening in the device to retain the device at the reading station, the restraint being located at the exterior of the reading station.~~

25. (Currently amended): A method of securing a portable storage device operable to provide system configuration information to a system unit in a reading station in the system unit, the method comprising:

- providing a portable storage device that includes a circuit, a circuit interface and an opening at an edge of the device;
- inserting the device in a device receiving passage in a device receiver until the circuit interface interfaces with a device reader, ~~the device receiver having a portion external to a housing of the reading station, said portion being configured to enable a restraint to engage the opening in the device to secure the device at the reading station;~~ and
- engaging a restraint with the opening ~~to secure the device in the reading station, the restraint being located at the exterior of the reading station.~~

26. (Original): The method of claim 25, wherein a hole in the device receiver aligns with the opening when the circuit interface interfaces with the device reader, the method further including manually engaging the restraint with the opening in the device.

27. (Original): The method of claim 26, wherein the circuit interface comprises circuit contacts.

28. (Original): The method of claim 25, wherein the device is a system configuration card.

29. (Original): The method of claim 25, wherein the opening comprises a notch in the edge of the device.

30. (Previously presented): The reading station of claim 8 and a portable storage device including:

- a circuit;
- a circuit interface; and
- an opening at an edge of the device.

31. (Previously presented): The reading station of claim 11 and a portable storage device, the portable storage device being in the form of a system configuration card, the card comprising:

- circuit contacts; and
- a notch.

32. (Cancelled).

33. (Previously presented): The computer system of claim 24 and a portable storage device, the portable storage device being operable to provide system configuration information to the computer system and including:

- a circuit;
- a circuit interface; and
- an opening at an edge of the device.

34. (Not entered)

35. (New): A system for reading a portable storage card, comprising:
a system housing, wherein the system housing comprises a slot for receiving the storage card, wherein the storage card has a first opening;
a formation coupled to the system housing and having a second opening external to the system housing, wherein the second opening at least partially aligns with the first opening when the storage card is inserted into the slot of the system housing; and
a restraint located through at least a portion of the second opening and the first opening when the storage card is inserted into the system housing.

36. (New): The system of claim 35, wherein the restraint is located entirely external to the system housing.

37. (New): The system of claim 35, wherein the system is a computer system and the storage card comprises a circuit and a circuit interface.

38. (New): The system of claim 35, wherein the first opening is a notch.

39. (New): The system of claim 35, further comprising a device reader located in an interior of the system housing to interface with the storage card when second opening at least partially aligns with the first opening.

40. (New): An apparatus comprising:
a device receiver mountable in a wall, the device receiver comprising a formation having a first portion of larger cross-sectional area that defines a protuberance to project from the wall, a second portion of smaller cross-sectional area to be received within the aperture in the wall, and a passage that passes through both portions to define a passage through the wall, the first portion further comprising a hole formed in the protuberance, which hole passes between opposite surfaces of the protuberance and traverses the passage for receiving a restraint to engage an opening in a device when the device is received in a device receiver for retraining the device therein; and

the device with the opening, the device being received in the device receiver.